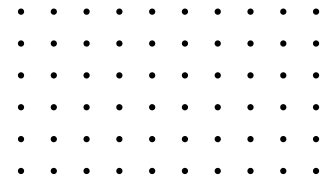


2025

# OSSIPEE PUBLIC LIBRARY



# CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN



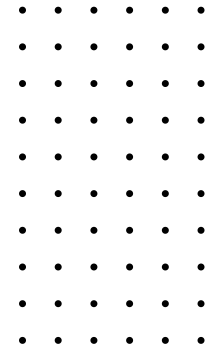
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# INTRODUCTION

In our ever-evolving digital and social landscape, libraries are more essential than ever as community hubs for learning, innovation, and connection. Ossipee Public Library is poised to embrace this role more fully through a comprehensive capital improvement plan designed to modernize our facilities, enhance our services, and strengthen our impact within the community. This narrative outlines the key objectives, strategies, and anticipated benefits of our capital improvement initiatives.

# CURRENT CHALLENGES

**Our current facility, while beloved and well-utilized, faces several challenges:**

- **Space Constraints:** Our existing layout restricts our ability to utilize the whole building.
- **Inefficient Space Utilization:** Certain sections of the library are overcrowded with furniture or shelves while some areas are underused.
- **Accessibility Issues:** The building requires upgrades to meet current accessibility standards, ensuring all members of our community can use our services comfortably.
- **Energy Efficiency:** The library's infrastructure lacks modern energy-efficient solutions, leading to higher operational costs and a larger environmental footprint.

# OBJECTIVES

**The capital improvement plan aims to address these challenges through the following objectives:**

- **Modernize Facilities:** Upgrade our physical infrastructure to include contemporary design elements and flexible spaces that meet the needs of today's library users.
- **Enhance Accessibility:** Implement necessary modifications to ensure our library is fully accessible to individuals with disabilities, aligning with current ADA standards.
- **Increase Efficiency:** Integrate energy-efficient systems and sustainable practices to reduce operational costs and minimize our environmental impact.
- **Expand Services:** Create additional spaces for programming, collaborative work, and community events, enhancing our role as a central community hub.

# STRATEGIES

- **Facility Renovation:** Redesign our building to create flexible spaces for study, collaboration, and community events. This includes reconfiguring the layout for improved flow and accessibility.
- **Technology Integration:** Continue to update technology on a schedule to support modern learning and research needs.
- **Accessibility Enhancements:** Implement features such as wheelchair ramps and automatic door entry to ensure our library serves all members of the community effectively.
- **Sustainability Initiatives:** Upgrade to energy-efficient lighting, heating, and cooling systems, and explore green building practices to reduce our environmental footprint and operational costs.

# BENEFITS

- **Enhanced User Experience:** The improvements will create a more inviting, functional, and engaging space that better meets the needs of our diverse patron base.
- **Increased Community Engagement:** With expanded spaces and modern facilities, we can host a wider range of programs and events, fostering greater community involvement and collaboration.
- **Greater Accessibility:** Upgrades will ensure that all members of our community, regardless of physical ability, can fully utilize the library space.
- **Operational Efficiency:** Energy-efficient systems and sustainable practices will lower operating costs and demonstrate our commitment to environmental stewardship.

# WARRANT ARTICLE

## Article:

To see if the Town will vote to establish a Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of financing future capital expenditures related to the library, including but not limited to repairs, renovations, and major equipment purchases, and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$20,000 dollars to be placed in this fund; and further, to name the Library Board of Trustees as agents to expend from this fund.

## Explanation:

This article proposes to create a Capital Reserve Fund dedicated to the library to ensure that funds are available for significant future expenses, such as building repairs, upgrades, and the purchase of major equipment. Establishing this fund will help manage and plan for these capital needs in a financially responsible manner. The fund will be overseen by the Library Board of Trustees, who will be authorized to make expenditures from the fund as necessary.

# PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS AND TIMELINE

Project	Description	Timeline
Drainage	To prevent ground and surface water from penetrating or damaging the building foundation, we will seek a landscape contractor to install French drains.	TBD
Basement Floor Sealed	To prevent mold and bacteria from growing by locking out moisture, we will seek a company to seal basement floors.	TBD
Wheelchair Access Ramp	To better accommodate staff and patrons, we will seek estimates for the install of a wheelchair ramp to the library's lower level.	TBD

# PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS AND TIMELINE

Project	Description	Timeline
Automatic Entry Doors	To provide hands-free access, eliminating physical barriers to all library visitors.	TBD
Generator	To provide continued services during power outages as well as support community emergency response initiatives	TBD
Circulation Desk	To create a more accessible patron experience as well as create a better functioning work area for staff	TBD

# PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS AND TIMELINE

Project	Description	Timeline
Air quality/ dehumidification in basement	To create a dehumidified space for historical and genealogical records to ensure preservation.	Completed September 2025
Hard landscaping	To prevent further erosion of the retaining wall, we will seek reconstruction and repair bids from local masons.	TBD
Update Signage	Increase visibility and convey updated library information	TBD
Garden maintenance	A continued effort by assistant director to beautify the front entryway and gardens	ongoing

# PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS AND TIMELINE

Project	Description	Timeline
Book Sale Space	To increase foot traffic and sales, we will optimize the reference room to include a book sale selection with clear pathways for easy navigation.	Completed April 2025
Teen Space	To foster collaboration and community among teens, we will create distinct areas for studying, lounging, and group activities for varied uses within the space.	TBD
Meeting Room Space	To improve functionality and flexibility of the meeting room, we will create built-in storage for materials, equipment, and supplies to keep the space organized.	TBD

# PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS AND TIMELINE

Project	Description	Timeline
LED Lighting/Windows /Doors	To lower operational cost, a no-cost energy assessment will be conducted by NH Saves program to help identify opportunities for improved energy efficiency.	Energy audit fall of 2025
Technology Services	To enhance our library's cybersecurity measures, we will attain services from a contracted IT company.	TBD
Technology	To continue seamless public computer access, all public computers will be replaced with future technologies to support modern learning and research.	2029

# NOTES

- Other areas of improvement to the building will depend on an assessment from a professional and input from the public. Most municipal entities recruit a building improvement committee and/or a consultant to help support these initiatives.
- Because of recent flooding to the library's basement, some building improvements are more urgent. Installing proper drainage and sealing the basement floor will prevent future flooding.
- Other areas of improvement to extend the library's functionality include, repave walkways, repair retaining wall, update outdoor signage, replace broken/cracked windows, update security system, update laminate in public bathrooms.

# CONCLUSION

The capital improvement plan for Ossipee Library represents a significant investment in our community's future. By addressing current challenges and embracing new opportunities, we aim to transform our library into a modern center for learning, innovation, and community engagement. Through these improvements, we will strengthen our role as a vital resource and a welcoming space for all.